

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 PC-01 IGA-01 (ISO) W

----- 115344

R 091130Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8058

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR. MI

SUBJECT: MALAWI'S ELEVENTH INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY

1. MALAWI'S ELEVENTH ANNIVERSARY WAS CELEBRATED OVER 4 DAY PERIOD BEGINNING JULY 3 WITH SERIES SPECIAL EVENTS LARGELY DUPLICATIVE OF LAST YEAR' TENTH. PRESIDENT BANDA'S NEW STATE HOUSE IN BLANTYRE, SANJIKA PALACE, WAS FORMALLY OPENED ON 5TH WITH STATE DINNER FOR 300 AT WHICH GERMAN FONMIN WAS PRINCIPAL GUEST HONOR. INCLUDED ALSO AT HEAD TABLE WERE MINISTERS FROM ZAMBIA, KENYA AND TANZANIA. TIM GIBBS OF MINORITY RHODESIA PARTY SINGLED OUT BY PRESIDENT AMONG OTHER GUESTS AS "OFFICIAL GUEST" OF GOVERNMENT AND "MOST WELCOME". SPECIAL ENVOY FROM SOUTH KOREA ALSO PRESENT.

2. NOTHING NEW IN BANDA'S REMARKS AT DINNER OR AT BIG STADIUM CELEBRATION SUNDAY BUT IT WAS NICE TO HEAR USG WARMLY
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PRAISED ON BOTH OCCASIONS FOR GIVING MALAWI IMPORTANT ASSISTANCE

IN ITS EARLY YEARS. WHEN ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS WERE READ TO STADIUM CROWD PRESIDENT FORD'S MESSAGE WAS FIRST.

3. AMONG DOMESTIC THEMES REITERATED WERE SUCCESS OF EFFORTS TO RAISE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, IMPROVED STANDARD OF LIVING FOR PEOPLE, PROPER PLANNING, BALANCED BUDGET AND RE FOREIGN POLICY CONTINUED IMPORTANCE CONTACT AND DIALOGUE AND FACT THAT CURRENT MOVES TOWARD DETENTE BETWEEN BLACK NORTH AND WHITE SOUTH MEAN, "I AM NO LONGER A LONE WOLF WHEN I AM SPEAKING OF THIS". RE IMPORTANCE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE HE STATED, "MALAWI SURVIVED AS AN INDEPENDENT STATE BECAUSE EVERYONE TO WHOM SHE APPEALED FOR AID RESPONDED FAVORABLY". CONSPICUOUS BY ITS OMISSION WAS ANY REFERENCE TO MOZAMBIQUE.

4. FOLLOWING HIS USUAL REVIVAL MEETING STYLE BANDA AT STADIUM CALLED ON ZAMBIAN, KENYAN AND TANZANIAN MINISTERS TO TESTIFY RE THEIR COUNTRY'S FRIENDSHIP FOR MALAWI AND IN PRAISE OF BANDA'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS, WHICH THEY ALL DID. NEAR END OF SPEECH WHEN ALL THEMES HAD BEEN DEALT WITH AT LENGTH AND REPETITIVELY AMERICAN AMBASSADOR ASKED TO STAND WHILE HISTORY AMERICAN AID ONCE AGAIN REVIEWED BUT TO HIS RELIEF NOT ASKED TO TESTIFY.
STEVENSON

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